

Applicant: Klaus BALLING  
Docket No. R.304865  
Preliminary Amdt.

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claims 1-9. (Canceled)

10. **(New)** A method for flushing air from injection valve such as a common rail injector for an internal combustion engine which injection valve on being put into operation is initially at least partly filled with air and to which a liquid medium is supplied via a typical connection for supplying fuel, the method comprising pressurizing an inner chamber of the injection valve to a pressure that is reduced compared to normal operation, whereby existing air bubbles increase in volume compared to the volume in normal operation, and flushing the medium contained in said inner chamber, at a reduced pressure that remains at least approximately constant, and selectively repeating these steps multiple times.

11. **(New)** The method according to claim 10, further comprising supplying control signals for opening and closing the injection to the injection valve.

12. **(New)** The method according to claim 10, further comprising supplying a low-pressure medium to reinforce the flushing out of the medium after leaving the injection valve.

Applicant: Klaus BALLING  
Docket No. R.304865  
Preliminary Amdt.

13. **(New)** The method according to claim 11, further comprising supplying a low-pressure medium to reinforce the flushing out of the medium after leaving the injection valve.

14. **(New)** An apparatus for performing the method according to claim 10, the apparatus comprising:

an adaptor head (14), to be connected to a low-pressure connection or leakage connection of the injection valve (2), which adaptor head can be made to communicate with a vacuum pump (16), and a device for supplying medium at high pressure to a standardly provided connection of the injection valve.

15. **(New)** An apparatus for performing the method according to claim 11, the apparatus comprising:

an adaptor head (14), to be connected to a low-pressure connection or leakage connection of the injection valve (2), which adaptor head can be made to communicate with a vacuum pump (16), and a device for supplying medium at high pressure to a standardly provided connection of the injection valve.

16. **(New)** An apparatus for performing the method according to claim 12, the apparatus comprising:

an adaptor head (14), to be connected to a low-pressure connection or leakage connection of the injection valve (2), which adaptor head can be made to communicate with a

Applicant: Klaus BALLING  
Docket No. R.304865  
Preliminary Amdt.

vacuum pump (16), and a device for supplying medium at high pressure to a standardly provided connection of the injection valve.

17. **(New)** An apparatus for performing the method according to claim 13, the apparatus comprising:

an adaptor head (14), to be connected to a low-pressure connection or leakage connection of the injection valve (2), which adaptor head can be made to communicate with a vacuum pump (16), and a device for supplying medium at high pressure to a standardly provided connection of the injection valve.

18. **(New)** The apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the adaptor head (14) has a connection that is in communication with a low-pressure connection for a flushing medium.

19. **(New)** The apparatus according to claim 14, wherein the apparatus further comprise a return tank (20) for the return quantity in communication with the adaptor head (14).

20. **(New)** The apparatus according to claim 18, wherein the apparatus further comprise a return tank (20) for the return quantity in communication with the adaptor head (14).

21. **(New)** The apparatus according to claim 14, further comprising at least one switching valve (V1, V2, V3, V4) for controlling chronological events of the apparatus.

22. **(New)** The apparatus according to claim 15, further comprising at least one switching valve (V1, V2, V3, V4) for controlling chronological events of the apparatus.

23. **(New)** The apparatus according to claim 16, further comprising at least one switching valve (V1, V2, V3, V4) for controlling chronological events of the apparatus.

24. **(New)** The apparatus according to claim 17, further comprising at least one switching valve (V1, V2, V3, V4) for controlling chronological events of the apparatus.

25. **(New)** The apparatus according to claim 21, further comprising a control device connected to a control terminal of the at least one switching valve (V1, V2, V3, V4).

26. **(New)** The apparatus according to claim 22, further comprising a control device connected to a control terminal of the at least one switching valve (V1, V2, V3, V4).

27. **(New)** The apparatus according to claim 23, further comprising a control device connected to a control terminal of the at least one switching valve (V1, V2, V3, V4).

28. **(New)** The apparatus according to claim 24, further comprising a control device connected to a control terminal of the at least one switching valve (V1, V2, V3, V4).

Applicant: Klaus BALLING  
Docket No. R.304865  
Preliminary Amdt.

29. **(New)** The apparatus according to claim 25, wherein the control device is coupled to an electrical terminal of the injector.